

## Israel, Egypt pledge peace talks start

By ABI RATH  
Editor of The Jerusalem Post

HOUSE, CAIRO. — The Cairo peace conference opened here today with both Israel and Egypt pledging their efforts to attain a comprehensive peace for the strife-ridden Middle East. It is the first time in the history of the decade-long Arab-Israeli conflict that its two main parties began to negotiate directly without the supervision of a third power.

ost significant aspect of the conference is undoubtedly the fact that it opened as scheduled, despite various earlier delays and snags, less than 48 hours after President Anwar Sadat's momentous visit to Jerusalem. It thus is keeping up the momentum of the joint Israeli-Egyptian initiative, with both sides very much aware of the need to maintain a high level of vigilance.

There was a vivid feeling of history in the making as the voice of Israel's chief negotiator, Eliahu Ben-Eliassar, spoke in Hebrew at the hall of Mena House at the pyramids, quoting a prophecy that "Israel will be at peace with Egypt and Assyria, in the midst of the earth."

It was also a great deal of relief in the words of Egypt's chief negotiator, Esmat Abdul-Maguid, who said that the meeting marks the start of a comprehensive peace, now transcending barriers of mistrust.

Also urged Israel to a "genuine desire for a just and lasting peace" that is "tangible and realistic" and "expected and forthcoming without delay."

In this context that many here were immediately aware of Begin's surprise visit to Cairo to meet President Sadat might join them in the belief that the meeting marks the start of a comprehensive peace, now transcending barriers of mistrust.

Ben-Eliassar's regretting the absence of representatives of Jordan, and an "absence of Palestine" at the same time, the "absence of the Arab world" from the talks was "a major setback" to the peace effort, he said. "I am pointing the way to such a response."

Significant that both the Israeli and Egyptian delegations chose their respective spokesmen — with Maguid recalling the UN Charter, saying: "I have a solid ground to build

a new life and to establish peace," and with Ben-Eliassar ending on the Jeffersonian principle: "Enemies in war, in peace friends."

"We want peace and we shall be friends," concluded Ben-Eliassar. The hush which fell over the elegant, ornate al-Rubayat hall at 11.30 sharp, with the knocking on the glass of first conference chairmen Maguid, was preceded by a long procession of newsmen and photographers who were allowed to file past and around the round conference table to look at silent, but complacently smiling conference delegates for over half an hour.

Each of the chief delegates was (Continued on page 2, col. 7)

Text of Cairo statements  
Page 4

### West Bank line 'complicated', Gamasy admits

POST Diplomatic Correspondent

CAIRO. — Egyptian Defence Minister Abdel Ghany Gamasy told an Israeli journalist yesterday that if he were Israeli chief of staff he would hand back Sinai and the Golan without any security guarantees — but the West Bank border of pre-'67 days would be "more complicated."

In a two-and-a-half-hour interview with the noted Israeli cartoonist and syndicated columnist Raanan Lurie, whose articles run in 280 American newspapers, Gamasy cited specifically Tulkarm and Kalkiya as "complicated."

The two men spoke, in Gamasy's words, as "combatants in a combat situation." Lurie is an IDF major in the reserves, and commanded a paratroop unit in the Six Day War.

Gamasy also said that henceforth Egypt would have "other, different directions from which to secure the country."

The Egyptian Defence Minister promised his country would not again commit its forces beyond its own borders.

The session was held in the Egyptian Army HQ.

### -day weekend break starts still no progress on agenda

DAVID LANDAU

omantic Correspondent. The Cairo conference is a two-day weekend break, its meetings from today morning, Egyptian Minister Saad Eddin said last night that, "Friday, Saturday is the Israeli day is the American and the UN will benefit from it."

His spokesman said he members of the Israeli delegation would spend some of their time as guests of the host.

He gave newsmen the impression that Egypt's conference to adjourn — even to wind up this stage on the 22nd or 23rd of before the Christmas break.

delegation member Saad Eddin, quickly American religious practice any hindering effect on the conference.

open-ended regarding he said, "I caution you

### Sadat: Settlement soon

NEW YORK. — Egyptian President Sadat believes a settlement will be achieved soon in the Middle East, he told an NBC television interview yesterday.

He said he was optimistic about Premier Begin's visit to Washington and that he believed the talks in Cairo would soon be raised to the level of foreign ministers.



Egypt, Israel and the U.S. hold a working meeting yesterday after the official opening session of the Cairo conference. Egypt's Esmat Abdul-Maguid shares a joke with (far left) Israeli legal adviser Meir Rosenne, Alfred Atherton of the U.S. and Israeli delegation chief Eliahu Ben-Eliassar. (UPI telephoto)

### Stay cool and keep talking is the motif at Mena House

By DAVID LANDAU

POST Diplomatic Correspondent

CAIRO. — The Cairo conference is determined above all else to stay cool and keep talking. This overriding mutual desire seemed to permeate and motivate everything that has been said and done here so far — and Israeli sources indicate that it will continue to be the leit-motif of the conference in the days (perhaps weeks) ahead.

What they are studiously not indicating, despite the intense curiosity and puzzlement of newsmen here, is precisely how this conference fits into the overall picture of Middle East peacemaking at this time. For if it was not entirely clear before, it is now — with Begin's snap visit to Washington — clear without doubt that not all of the action is taking place here at Mena House.

There are ongoing overt, and in all probability covert, developments that are parallel and complementary to this conference, and indeed perhaps supersede it in significance. Plainly, though, any progress to be made anywhere else hinges on this conference succeeding — or at least not obviously failing. And both Israeli and Egyptian negotiators were intensely aware of this truth yesterday and made resolute efforts to ward off any hint of deadlock.

This was evident in the very fact that the conference opened on schedule, even though it had to adjourn immediately after the formal opening because the two sides are still wrangling over an agenda.

It was evident in the delicate handling of a potentially explosive episode: the hoisting of a Palestinian flag along with the flags of the other invitees outside the hotel as the conference opened.

And it was evident in the moderate and non-polemical tenor of both main protagonists' opening speeches.

So determined are the sides to keep the conference from flagging that they agreed last night to hold the first formal working session, at nine a.m. today, without a set agenda — having agreed on an agenda for that and subsequent sessions.

The decision followed a tripartite afternoon meeting between Israeli, Egyptian and American officials at which the procedural problems were apparently thrashed out further. The Israeli sources said these "procedural problems" were typical of the jockeying that always precedes international diplomatic conferences.

Their observation, with its obvious desire to play down differences, was another expression of the "stay cool and keep talking" motif. Moreover, it threw into starker relief the unusual nature of the parties' joint decision to go ahead with the opening ceremony even without an agreed agenda for future sessions.

The agenda issue is, of course, not "just procedural" but has weighty substantive undertones. Israel has (Continued on page 2, col. 5)

Proclaiming their governments' intention to strive for a lasting peace, Israel and Egyptian delegates yesterday morning sat down together, at the first session of the Cairo conference designed to pave the way to Israel-Arab peace talks. Both sides sought to minimize their real differences on technical and substantive matters.

### Begin trip upstages first day of talks

By ANAN SAFADI

Post Middle East Affairs Editor

CAIRO. — Prime Minister Menachem Begin's sudden flight to the U.S. robbed the Cairo conference's opening session yesterday of a good deal of its drama and focal interest — at least as far as Egyptian political observers and the international news media were concerned.

Even while the delegates read out their meticulously worded speeches in the lavish conference room of the Mena House complex, speculations outside the hall centred on the purpose and significance of the Israeli Premier's snap visit to Washington.

Egyptian government circles said they thought the Premier had gone to the U.S. for one of two reasons: either to discuss the principles of an overall Middle East settlement that would lure Arab countries other than Egypt into the current peace campaign, or to negotiate American guarantees while the Cairo conference tackled the basic components of the Israel-Arab conflict.

Begin's trip to Washington was claimed here to have been the "important development" Egyptian President Anwar Sadat had on Tuesday promised would take place yesterday.

Spokesmen at the presidential palace declined to say how much coordination there had been between Sadat and Begin before the latter decided to go to see President Carter.

But Dr. Moris Saad Eddin, just appointed as the official spokesman for the Cairo conference with Israel, said that Begin's trip comes as part of the current peace initiative. He noted that the U.S. was currently playing a major role in the peacemaking process, adding that Cairo welcomed the Israeli premier's move.

Two things appeared to be clear here. First, that the Israeli and Egyptian delegations to the Cairo parley

were likely to hammer out an agenda — as early as next week — for an overall peace settlement whose more specific guidelines Prime Minister Begin will be discussing in Washington tomorrow.

Second, that the talks will be upgraded to Foreign Minister level after the brief Christmas recess, if not already by next week.

Dr. Esmat Abdul-Maguid, head of the Egyptian delegation to the Mena House talks, said here yesterday that the question of upgrading the Cairo conference was expected to be clarified within a few days.

All indeed appear to be awaiting the outcome of Mr. Begin's Washington visit, during which — according to spokesman Saad Eddin — not much information will be divulged from the closed meetings here.

Israeli and Egyptian negotiators were privately saying yesterday that they were engaged in exchanging feelers over issues on which they have been deadlocked. This was taking place mostly outside the negotiating chamber and in the private rooms either of Abdul-Maguid, Egypt's chief delegate, or of Dr. Eliahu Ben-Eliassar, Israel's chief envoy.

Reliable sources close to the conference said that the Egyptians and Israelis were moving towards agreement on an agenda whose components correspond to the clauses of UN Security Council Resolution 242.

Publicly, however, the Egyptians said they would submit at today's first closed session a number of working papers heralding a variety of options for dealing with the Israel-Arab conflict.

Dr. Osama el-Baz, Egypt's number-two man at the talks here, said yesterday that his government's working papers continue to centre on five major principles. These are: full Israeli (Continued on page 2, col. 2)

### Sticking point: Palestinians

By DAVID LANDAU

POST Diplomatic Correspondent

CAIRO. — It is the Palestinian problem — the immediate issue of representation of Palestinian Arabs and the ultimate issue of a political solution — that is holding up agreement on an agenda for the Cairo conference.

This was learned from a well-placed source here last night. Behind the smiles and determination to give the impression of "progress," a wide gap has opened up over the Palestinian question. In part it was bridged by Egypt's agreement, after five arduous hours of argument, that there be no place labels at yesterday's opening session. Originally, Egypt had wanted "P.L.O." or at least the word "Palestine" to appear at the vacant space of the Palestinian delegation. The Israeli negotiators offered alternative proposals: only those delegations actually participating would be denoted by place labels, or no labels would be used at all.

Dr. Esmat Abdul-Maguid, under orders from Sadat to facilitate the conference's opening on time, eventually gave way on this. But he and his legal aides are fighting hard for the specific inclusion of the Palestinian problem on the conference agenda.

He is being resisted with equal force by Ben-Eliassar. Israel observers believed that Egypt, because it is under attack in the Arab world over the Cairo conference, feels it must show at all costs that this parley is not designed to reach a separate agreement with Israel, but will confirm all Arab interests, and particularly the Palestinian problem.

The delegation noted with discomfort Dr. Maguid's reference, in his opening speech, to "the relevant UN resolutions, including Security Council resolution 242." This was a clear reference to a General Assembly resolution which supports the P.L.O. and its claim for statehood.

## U.S. backing sought for peace accords

By ERWIN FRENKEL  
Editor of The Jerusalem Post

WASHINGTON. — Prime Minister Begin, who arrived in the U.S. yesterday for a surprise meeting with President Carter here tomorrow, is expected to probe the measure of American support Israel can expect as possible agreements with Egypt and other Arab states come into focus.

Israel, it is believed here, would want the U.S. to underwrite any agreement with Egypt or any other Arab state. The nature of American commitments could itself determine the degree of flexibility Israel would allow itself in substantive negotiations.

In the case of Egypt, Israel would seek beyond American "guarantees" a broadened American physical presence in Sinai and perhaps Sharm el-Sheikh, patterned in part on the present American-manned surveillance facilities in Sinai.

It is thought that Begin will also try to obtain clarity on the extent to which U.S. influence could be brought to bear on Jordan and Saudi Arabia in order to bring them into the current peace-making effort.

The President, for his part, will want to measure at first hand Begin's proposals regarding the West Bank. U.S. officials believe that King Hussein will not be able to enter into any negotiating process unless he is assured in advance of what he can expect to gain.

During the past fortnight the Carter administration has overcome its original hesitation over President Sadat's peace initiative by stepping the Geneva conference and America's interest in a single-step comprehensive settlement.

U.S. officials are now prepared to envisage a long process, whose first stage would include agreements between Israel and Egypt, Jordan and perhaps Saudi Arabia.

They hope that such agreements

would impel Syria to follow suit, and that the Soviet Union would then step back from its current effort to encourage the coalescence of an anti-American radical bloc.

In contrast to his first visit here in July, Begin will spend almost all of his time in Washington, staying at Blair House. He will arrive in the U.S. capital from New York today to consult with Israeli Embassy officials, and will meet with Carter tomorrow morning. Later in the day he will meet with Senate and House leaders and convene a press conference.

He will spend the Sabbath quietly at Blair House, and his schedule leaves open the possibility of another meeting with President Carter on Sunday. During the weekend he will also meet with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Begin will return to Israel early next week.

On arrival in New York yesterday, Begin said many dramatic events had taken place since he was last in Washington (in July) and he "felt President Carter should be informed in detail about all those events."

"We do hope that this visit will be a contribution to the peace-making process because it is the President who made the greatest contribution to the event which took place and made possible the Cairo conference," Begin said.

Details of the Prime Minister's agenda for today were not known, but he is reportedly meeting with some Jewish leaders in New York before flying to Washington.

### At tomorrow's meeting with Carter Begin to spell out formula for accord

By ASHER WALLFISH

POST Diplomatic Correspondent

Premier Menachem Begin will tomorrow give U.S. President Jimmy Carter Israel's opening negotiating position on a Sinai arrangement, indicating the scope and the time-table for a withdrawal across the desert as well as proposals for security belts running parallel to the 1967 borders with Egypt at varying distances from it.

He will also explain Israel's ideas for a functional partition of Judea and Samaria between Israel and Jordan, conditional upon King Hussein's eventual willingness to assume responsibility for the West Bank once again. Premier Begin will outline ideas for giving the West Bank population a measure of autonomy and will spell out more flexible formulae which he is now willing to subscribe to publicly, concerning "the aspirations of the Arab residents of former Palestine."

Premier Begin wants the sympathy of President Carter for the proposals which Israel will put to President Anwar Sadat because he knows he has to bring the U.S. closer to Israel's thinking before he can usefully ask President Carter to exert some leverage in the bargaining. The American thinking on all aspects of the Middle East dispute except for the "nature of peace" is much closer to Arab thinking than to Israeli thinking.

A source in the Prime Minister's Office last night rejected Labour charges that Premier Begin had now come round to the view that "coordination of positions" with the U.S. must precede the process of practical bargaining with Egypt, after rejecting this same view in the summer when he first met President Jimmy Carter.

The source said that Alignment governments had in the past whittled (Continued on page 2, col. 2)



### OUR TEAMS IN CAIRO AND WASHINGTON

Keep you abreast of the dramatic developments. From Washington, Editor Erwin Frenkel and correspondent Malka Rabinowitz introduce the Begin-Carter meetings. From Cairo, Editor Ari Rath, with Anan Safadi and David Landau, report on developments at the Cairo peace conference, while Wolf Blitzer, in Egypt for 11 days, takes a closer look at the mood there. Claire de Picciotto first went to Cairo 35 years ago, as a young French travel writer. She later lived in the Egyptian capital. Now residing in Kiryat Gat, she relives some of her memories with Philip Gillon. Theodore Herzl's dream of a canal linking the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea may come true. David Kivine looks at some of the plans and proposals. Walter Raby gets away from it all on a hike through Galilee. Actress Aviva Marks traces her stage career and talks about a recent unexpected honour in an interview with Catherine Rosenheimer.

In tomorrow's weekend edition of THE JERUSALEM POST

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### Men gets 15 years for war crimes

M. — Dutch millionaire Men was yesterday sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment in mass executions of 150 Polish Jews in Poland in 1941. The specially convened court said the 78-year-old collector was guilty of "inhumanity and had executed or by burying wish" victims, some 20 ns, in the village of after cool and calm "on July 7, 1941. He was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment on the same year. Men was a successful businessman and was a well-known in Podhoroc and his possessions behind towards to Cracow when y and the Soviet Union

divided Poland between them. Men returned with the German forces which invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941. He was an interpreter attached to an SS unit whose main task was the liquidation of Jews.

He claimed he did not volunteer for the job, but was arrested by the Germans and forced to go with them.

It was the second verdict against Men for his wartime activities. The first was in 1948 when he drew an eight-month sentence for collaborating with the Nazis.

Once free, he built up a multi-million dollar financial empire with abroad stock and real-estate deals.

The new charges against him followed a series of reports in the Dutch press in 1976. Men had lived quietly at his 50-room mansion at Bellicum, south of Amsterdam, until the press campaign was sparked off by a report that he planned to sell off part of his vast art collection. Mention of his name brought ac-

cusations from Israel by journalist Havi Kanan who dredged up part of his wartime past. Men managed to escape to Switzerland, but he was arrested and extradited late last year to stand trial.

The trial, which began on May 5, brought witnesses from the Soviet Union, Poland, West Germany, the U.S., Israel and other countries. The Soviet contingent testified it saw Men in Podhoroc at the 1941 killings and observed him participating in the clubbing of victims and ordering their execution by an SS firing squad.

In Israel, Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir yesterday telephoned Dutch Justice Minister De Gay Fordman to express his appreciation for the Dutch efforts in investigating Men's past, obtaining his extradition from Switzerland, indicting him and the subsequent sentencing.

(Reuter, AP, UPI)

### Vance certain Saudis want comprehensive settlement

RIYADH (AP). — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was described yesterday as "certain that Saudi Arabia is totally committed to helping any way it can to achieve a comprehensive settlement" in the Middle East.

This assessment by Hoddin Carter, the U.S. spokesman, followed King Khalid and other officials. The spokesman, however, provided no details of the meetings and avoided any specific reference to the talks now underway in Cairo.

Spokesman Carter said, "They intend to play and are playing a constructive role toward the goal of a peaceful evolution of the problem in the Middle East and that role is one which is going on right now."

The inference is that Saudi Arabia is working behind the scenes to repair the rift between Egypt and

Syria, which informed Vance on Tuesday night that it would not attend the Cairo talks and might even boycott an eventual Geneva peace conference.

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative last month to Israel took Saudi Arabia largely by surprise. Publicly the Saudis, who have bankrolled Sadat, were ambivalent.

This was the last leg of Vance's six-country trip to the Middle East. He flies home today to Washington where he will participate in President Jimmy Carter's talks with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Meanwhile, Riyadh radio said King Hussein of Jordan will visit Saudi Arabia on Sunday for talks with King Khalid and his top aides on the latest Middle East peace moves.



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**THE WEATHER**

Forecast: Partly cloudy, at times cloudy with rain. Fog in low areas.

| Yesterday's Forecast | Today's |
|----------------------|---------|
| Temp.                | Temp.   |
| Jerusalem 67-81      | 67-81   |
| Tel Aviv 67-81       | 67-81   |
| Haifa 67-81          | 67-81   |
| Beirut 67-81         | 67-81   |
| Amman 67-81          | 67-81   |
| Baghdad 67-81        | 67-81   |
| Tripoli 67-81        | 67-81   |
| Cairo 67-81          | 67-81   |
| London 67-81         | 67-81   |
| Paris 67-81          | 67-81   |
| Rome 67-81           | 67-81   |
| Moscow 67-81         | 67-81   |
| Washington 67-81     | 67-81   |
| New York 67-81       | 67-81   |
| Los Angeles 67-81    | 67-81   |
| Hong Kong 67-81      | 67-81   |
| Manila 67-81         | 67-81   |
| Bombay 67-81         | 67-81   |
| Calcutta 67-81       | 67-81   |
| Madras 67-81         | 67-81   |
| Colombo 67-81        | 67-81   |
| Singapore 67-81      | 67-81   |
| Perth 67-81          | 67-81   |
| Auckland 67-81       | 67-81   |
| Wellington 67-81     | 67-81   |
| Dunedin 67-81        | 67-81   |
| Christchurch 67-81   | 67-81   |
| Wellington 67-81     | 67-81   |
| Dunedin 67-81        | 67-81   |
| Christchurch 67-81   | 67-81   |

**SOCIAL & PERSONAL**

**President's Visit** — President Anwar Sadat received France's outgoing ambassador to Israel, Mr. Jean Herly.

**Rabbi Haim Druckman** MK was guest speaker at the sixth annual conference of the American Mizrahi Women Council of Eilat, which met yesterday at the Jerusalem Hilton. Over 350 women, most of them American olim, also toured Mizrahi institutions in the capital.

**Professor Mordechai Gichon** will lecture on "Judaism from the Destruction of the Temple to the Resurrection of the Bar-Kochba Revolt" in a second session of the English-language seminar "The People of Israel in its Land," at 8 p.m. tonight at the ZOA House in Tel Aviv.

**Birth**

**ANTHEA** — to Lea and Yoram, on December 12 at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, a daughter, sister to Yoav and Yael, grand-daughter to Pinna Blumstein and Judy Antebi.

**ARRIVALS**

**Andres Arrata Macias**, Ecuador's Defence Minister, and General Raul Carrera Sevilla, Chief of Staff of Ecuador, for a one week visit as guests of the Defence Ministry.

**Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe**, head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, from New York after a short visit in the U.S.

**B.K. Kapoor**, a senior manager of Air India, to participate in the annual dinner of the Interline Club in Israel.

**BEGIN TRIP**

(Continued from page one)

withdrawal from territories the Arabs lost in the 1967 war; creation of a Palestinian Arab state; the rights of all states in the region to live peacefully within secure and recognized borders; renunciation of force; and termination of the state of belligerency.

Meanwhile, officials from the embassies of Jordan and the Soviet Union yesterday made their first appearances in the corridors of Mena House in an obvious quest for information. The Jordanian and Soviet officials came separately, but each witnessed their national flags first fluttering and then immediately brought down, along those of Syria and Palestine.

In contrast to oft-repeated reports, a foreign ministry official denied that Egypt had invited the PLO to the Cairo gathering.

President Sadat yesterday received messages from Saudi Arabia's King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd, but the Egyptians maintained a curious silence over their contents. The Saudis, who have financial leverage over Jordan and Syria, are reported here to privately approve of Egypt's current peace offensive — although they don't hide their dissatisfaction with the independent and flamboyant manner in which the Egyptian leader is orchestrating what they view to be the destiny of the immediate Arab region.

Egyptian officials did not seem to be disturbed by the lack of Saudi Arabian public support. But they conceded that they need a little help from the Saudis, as well as from the Americans, and a lot from Israel, to help Sadat, whom they see as having strapped himself into a political rollercoaster that he cannot get off until it reaches some destination.

**Saudis award \$2.5b. contract for phones**

**STOCKHOLM (Reuters)** — Saudi Arabia has awarded a \$2.5-billion contract for the expansion of its telephone system to the I.M. Ericsson Telephone Company of Sweden, the Phillips group of Holland and Canada's Bell Company, a spokesman for Ericsson said here yesterday.

He said Ericsson and Phillips would each supply equipment worth \$1.25 billion over three years, and Bell would manage the system for five years.

The spokesman added that contracts would be signed with the Saudi ministry of communications by the end of this month.

**FOR SELLING** 8.4 grams of hashish to two youths, Hanaia Ben-David, 48, of Tel Aviv, was sentenced yesterday to a year's imprisonment by the Haifa District Court.

**Weizman: Peace involving U.S. troops is acceptable**

By ASHER WALLFISH  
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel would not reject the idea of American troops or American technicians being involved in a Middle East settlement, Defence Minister Ezer Weizman said yesterday.

Weizman said that any means that could contribute to a peace settlement would not be ruled out and would be judged on its merits. He spoke at the annual Editors Committee luncheon at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, held to mark the 30th anniversary of the UN resolution calling for the establishment of the State of Israel.

The Defence Minister stood in for Premier Menachem Begin, who was due to be the luncheon's guest of honour but could not attend because of his surprise trip to the U.S.

Weizman — in excellent spirits despite the plaster cast on his leg following a car accident last month — stuck to generalities when asked about Begin's trip and the Cairo talks. The total blanket of secrecy on the decisions and moves of the Cabinet would continue for the time being, he said.

While he was not prepared to say for sure that President Anwar Sadat would manage to make an agreement with Israel, Weizman suggested that because both Egypt and Israel had gone so far, it would be hard for them ever to return to the status quo ante the Egyptian leader's visit.

Weizman said he would recommend that King Hussein of Jordan join the Cairo talks at once. "From the Jordanian point of view, I expected King Hussein to come to Jerusalem and worship together with President Sadat at the mosque that morning."

He said Syrian President Hafez Assad's charges that Israel was planning war on his country were either the result of a misjudgement or motivated by the desire to solve some internal political problem in Syria. Israel might perhaps face trouble in the future from southern Lebanon, he agreed in reply to a question, but at present the situation there was favourable to Israel.

Israel and Egypt could have mutual understandings, breakthroughs and exchanges of ideas in Cairo, he said, but the final and definite agreement would not be attained before the Geneva conference.

Weizman said Israel's proposals for Jerusalem were broadly identical with the situation which obtained there today. It was however working out ideas on how Jew and Arab would co-exist in the city.

No conceivable act of Arab terror could torpedo Sadat's peace initiative, he believed.

He denied having met with the Egyptian Defence Minister Muhammad Abdel Ghany Ghamay, as was reported from Cairo by a correspondent of an Israeli evening paper.

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**Cairo-Tel Aviv phone lines up**

By AARON SITTNER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The first commercial telephone circuits linking Cairo and Tel Aviv were hooked up yesterday afternoon.

Wearing an ordinary operator's headset and standing at station six at the International Telephone Exchange, I had no trouble hearing the voice at the other end — "Kulam el muhandess Ibrahim min Mena House for Kahira" ("This is phone engineer Ibrahim at Mena House Hotel in Cairo").

Behind me, Solange Shper, assistant chief supervisor of the international exchange, sighed with relief.

"Well, at last!" she exclaimed, after a brief tete-a-tete with the Egyptian technician. "We've finally got them to hook up the cables and make life easier for us. We've asked for at least six direct lines, but now they tell us all we'll get at present is four — and we are reserving them for Israel Radio and you newspaper people."

Shper, a native Cairene who came to this country in 1948, has been with the international phone exchange in Tel Aviv for 22 years. She said: "The demand for calls to Cairo really surprises me. Not only the news media — local and foreign — have been booking calls, but dozens of private individuals."

In fact, the orders for calls are coming in so heavily that the huge bulletin board on the wall read yesterday: "No more calls for Cairo to be accepted today or tomorrow."

Until yesterday — when Engineer Ibrahim tightened the last two screws in a manhole below a street in Cairo — all phone traffic between Israel and Egypt had been routed through "third party" international exchanges. "Sometimes it was Rome, sometimes Geneva, and

sometimes Athens," Shper said. "And in the morning, we would use New York since they didn't mind handling our traffic during their slow hours."

As phone lines opened between Tel Aviv and Cairo yesterday, Jerusalemites trying to get through to their local information operators (14) still encountered a busy signal.

"The strike is still on," a Communications Ministry spokesman told The Jerusalem Post last night. "However, informal talks have already begun between the Ministry and the strikers."

The work stoppage, more than a week old, erupted when the ministry put into operation a computerized number-locating system to replace the manual directory-search that has been in use since phone service was established here.

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Israel's flag flies in Egypt yesterday at the start of the Cairo Conference. The flags include (l to r) Jordan, PLO, the U.S., Egypt, the UN, Israel, Syria, the Soviet Union and Lebanon.

**Cairo-Tel Aviv phone lines up**

By AARON SITTNER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The first commercial telephone circuits linking Cairo and Tel Aviv were hooked up yesterday afternoon.

Wearing an ordinary operator's headset and standing at station six at the International Telephone Exchange, I had no trouble hearing the voice at the other end — "Kulam el muhandess Ibrahim min Mena House for Kahira" ("This is phone engineer Ibrahim at Mena House Hotel in Cairo").

Behind me, Solange Shper, assistant chief supervisor of the international exchange, sighed with relief.

"Well, at last!" she exclaimed, after a brief tete-a-tete with the Egyptian technician. "We've finally got them to hook up the cables and make life easier for us. We've asked for at least six direct lines, but now they tell us all we'll get at present is four — and we are reserving them for Israel Radio and you newspaper people."

Shper, a native Cairene who came to this country in 1948, has been with the international phone exchange in Tel Aviv for 22 years. She said: "The demand for calls to Cairo really surprises me. Not only the news media — local and foreign — have been booking calls, but dozens of private individuals."

In fact, the orders for calls are coming in so heavily that the huge bulletin board on the wall read yesterday: "No more calls for Cairo to be accepted today or tomorrow."

Until yesterday — when Engineer Ibrahim tightened the last two screws in a manhole below a street in Cairo — all phone traffic between Israel and Egypt had been routed through "third party" international exchanges. "Sometimes it was Rome, sometimes Geneva, and

sometimes Athens," Shper said. "And in the morning, we would use New York since they didn't mind handling our traffic during their slow hours."

As phone lines opened between Tel Aviv and Cairo yesterday, Jerusalemites trying to get through to their local information operators (14) still encountered a busy signal.

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**Ministry may charter flights from Israel**

By SHILOMO MAOZ  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Do you dream of flying to Europe for next to nothing — well, ILI, 700? Your dream could come true if the Transport Ministry proves charter flights from Israel.

At present, the only charter flights that are permitted are for students only, conduct ISSTA, the student travel. But Minister of Transport Mehasse has set up a special working committee to consider a permission for charter flight to destinations in Europe, perhaps further afield.

Tourism sources say the such flights to Europe at around ILI, 700 in the winter up to ILI, 3,000 in the summer season.

Charter rules lay down a price of a four package must hotel costs. Charter travellers stay in their destination for days, but on the way home stop over in other places.

As in most things, in charter the competition helps the price down. The British tour operator Thomson Holidays, has begun chartering here for a week's package deal including hotel costs of the country. All between 299 and 2127 Sterling whose cheapest group flight from London to Europe is only used to be £140, has now set its minimum rate at £9 for tourists only. No Israelis at all.

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**Radio, TV sending another dozen to cover Cairo talks**

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Israel Broadcasting Authority is sending 12 more reporters, technicians and cameramen to Egypt to "improve coverage" of the Cairo conference, according to TV director Arnon Zuckerman. The Authority already has a team of 15 working there.

The seven TV and five radio staffers all received approval for the trip from the Interior Ministry (which must authorize travel to an "enemy country"), the Government Press Office and the Egyptian government. Until now, the Egyptians had limited the number of media men holding Israeli passports to 50.

The expansion of the Authority team followed sanctions by technicians in TV House, who threatened to prevent all direct broadcasts from Cairo. They charged that they were discriminated against in that no lighting men or technical supervisors were sent to Cairo. But Zuckerman told The Jerusalem Post that the threats had "no bearing" on the decision to send more workers.

"We had always wanted to have more in Cairo; the transmissions are very complex and physical facilities there are very difficult," Zuckerman said. "The technical problems with yesterday morning's live coverage of the conference opening were due to problems in Egypt, and that a top-flight technician being sent there is expected to solve most of the transmission problems."

One of the reporters being sent in the second Broadcasting Authority delegation is Victor Nahmias, a TV reporter who was born in Egypt. Meanwhile, Zuckerman has dismissed complaints by TV producers who also want to go to Cairo to work. He told The Post that such employees are not needed there since Egypt is providing the Israeli team with a TV studio and Egyptians to man the facilities.

Zuckerman had "no idea yet" how much the live broadcasts from Cairo will cost. One source close to TV House guessed that the first two-week round of talks could cost ILI, 300,000 per Broadcasting Authority employee in Egypt — not including costs of satellite transmissions.

The Prime Minister was accompanied to Washington by his wife Aliza, military adviser Tat-Aluf Ephraim Poran, Attorney-General Aharon Barak and advisers Shmuel Katz and Yehuda Avner.

Before leaving Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday morning, Begin told reporters that there was no secret in his sudden departure. But for reasons of courtesy, he said, it was agreed that the visit would not be made public until the morning of the flight.

The premier explained that on Saturday night, he had asked U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to determine whether President Carter was willing to receive him in Washington. Vance later informed Begin of a positive response, and the meeting was set for this Friday, because the President also wanted Vance to take part in the discussions. Begin informed Egyptian President Sadat of his intended visit.

The prime minister said he was convinced that the trip would contribute to the bringing of peace, and that he hoped all of Israel's neighbours would sign a peace treaty.

Asked why the attorney-general was included in his entourage, Begin said that legal matters would be involved in the matters to be discussed with Carter, adding that Prof. Barak is "one of the outstanding jurists of this age."

**Police dog trainer jailed for opium sale**  
TEL AVIV (Him) — A police dog trainer was yesterday sentenced to two years imprisonment for selling opium which he was given to train his drug-sniffing dog, to an addict.

Samuel Rishon Ezra Machpesh, 25, of the village of Yavneel in lower Galilee, had admitted in the District Court here to selling the opium for ILI, 400 to a drug addict, the son of a policeman, who worked with him.

**U.S. backing is sought**

(Continued from page one)

down their negotiating demands as a result of coordination with Washington only to whittle them down still further once talks with the Arabs actually began.

Premier Begin, the source said, regarded President Carter as Israel's "best friend" and felt that he could only request the good offices of the U.S. during a negotiating phase, if he first explained in detail what Israel's bargaining position would be.

Israel and Egypt are in contact over substantive issues at a level and through channels other than the Cairo conference, and Premier Begin sees that the time will soon arrive when Israel must put a comprehensive peace plan on the table for Egypt to consider, the source said. Therefore, Begin decided to brief President Carter well before the Christmas break which would not only interrupt the Cairo talks, but also the assessment process in Washington whereby the U.S. Administration would take a stand on the Israeli proposals.

The schedule of the talks for tomorrow enables Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to get back from his Middle East swing with an overall view of the Arab approaches to President Sadat's peace initiative. It also enables Premier Begin to get a good rest in New York, recover from jet lag, and plan his presentation to President Carter. In Jerusalem, Begin would not have succeeded in resting, his aides said. He had been on the go steadily since the Vance visit, drafting the peace proposals and consulting from 8.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday with Cabinet Ministers to get their consensus.

Premier Begin has been in Washington once before since taking office — in July for his first conference with President Carter.

Meanwhile Jerusalem was last night full of rumours that Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan would be leaving for a foreign capital in a few hours time to hand over to an emissary of President Sadat a copy of the material which Premier Begin was taking to Washington.

Dayan himself, as well as intimate associates, denied these reports, which mentioned Rabat and Teheran as two of the speculated venues for the rumoured meeting between Dayan and President Sadat's trusted envoy.

One government official in Jerusalem, asked to comment on these rumours, said that if Dayan were going to hand over documents and not to negotiate, Premier Begin could just as well get the papers to President Sadat via Egyptian envoys in New York or Washington. The official said that while Dayan

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הכדא מן האכל

tonight

total prize fund

IL4,800,000

first prize

IL750,000

mifal hapayis

## Need marbles to get gun

**Jerusalem Post Staff**

Applicants for gun licences will have to produce a letter from their doctor attesting to their mental stability, the Interior Ministry announced yesterday.

The announcement follows an incident last May in which an employee of the Tourism Ministry shot and killed two of his supervisors and then himself, using a weapon for which he had a permit. Later investigation revealed that the man, a disabled veteran of the Six Day War, had undergone psychiatric treatment at Hadassah Hospital.

The Interior Ministry also noted that random groups of those already holding gun licences would be chosen annually and asked to produce a similar letter.

Jerusalem police are meanwhile investigating watchmen companies that distribute weapons to employees who have no licence.

In two incidents reported, one at Shaare Zedek Hospital and one at a Jerusalem school, guards were armed despite their lack of proper permits.

## Talks on lake research planned here for April

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

HAIFA. — An international symposium on the use of lakes and man's influence on their biological, chemical and physical conditions, will be held next April at the Kinneret Research Laboratory of the Oceanographic and Limnology Research Institute.

The symposium, sponsored jointly by the Academies of Science of Israel and Sweden, will discuss the results already achieved in Lake Kinneret, where manipulation of the water levels and fish stock have resulted in an increased yield, an institute spokesman announced yesterday.

## Railroads short on funds

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

HAIFA. — The Railways General Manager, Zvi Zefari, has described as "inadequate" the IL400m. budget for 1978 development work allocated by the Transport Ministry.

Speaking to the railways management here, Zefari said the sum will barely cover the most necessary work. Over half the sum will be spent on 186 new freight cars for the transport of phosphates and grains, two new diesel locomotives and two passenger coaches. Another IL20m. will be spent on vital track improvements, and work will continue on planning new lines, especially the projected Sodot-Nilat rail link.

## Citrus growers claim losses by gales

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

The Israel Citrus Growers Association claimed yesterday that crops were seriously damaged by the gales that swept through large parts of Israel about 10 days ago.

A private crop adjuster told *The Jerusalem Post* he estimated that up to five per cent of the crop was damaged as a result of the winds, but citrus growers say that fruit on the trees continues to fall because the winds weakened the stems.

Harshest hit were the coastal areas and the central plains. While farmers are gathering whatever fruit they can for the processing plants, they estimate that only a small portion will be salvaged. They will seek compensation from the insurance fund for natural risks in agriculture.

## Dismissed Kitan workers already in new jobs

In the first ten days since the Kitan Dimona dismissals took effect, 19 out of the 49 workers made redundant have signed on at the Dimona labour exchange, and 12 have already been found alternative work.

Social Affairs and Labour Minister Israel Katz has instructed the exchange to deal personally with the cases of each of the 49 dismissed workers, the ministry spokesman said yesterday.

Katz has also told the professional training department of his ministry to run a course for workers in the hotel trade in Dimona. Graduates of the course would have no difficulty in finding work in the hotels in the Sdom and Dead Sea areas.

## U.S. Jews donate \$8.5m. for new blood bank

Health Minister Eliezer Shostak said yesterday on his return from abroad that U.S. Jews will contribute \$8.5m. for the establishment of a blood bank and centre for the processing of blood by-products in Israel.

At a meeting held in New York with the management of Magen David Adom, it was decided to donate this sum for the building of the centre and blood bank because the existing facilities are no longer capable of handling blood supplies required in Israel.

The Health Minister also said that \$50,000 was raised for the International Committee for the War against Drugs which has close ties with Israel.

## Labour solicits funds from members

**Post Political Reporter**

TEL AVIV. — The Labour Party yesterday asked its active members to contribute IL2,000 each to help the party repay its debts, which total over IL50m.

Party chairman Shimon Peres, and the head of the party's emergency fund, Yigal Alon, wrote to the 8,000 active members that they can make this contribution in instalments.

## Agency says no to 'gentleman farmers'

**By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH**  
**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

In a move aimed at preventing the suburbanisation of agricultural settlements, the Jewish Agency Executive has decreed that anyone who buys a moehav smallholding must commit himself to operate it as a working farm.

Dr. Ra'anan Weiss, head of the Agency's Settlement Department, said yesterday in an interview that the move was necessitated by a growing trend especially near cities for non-farmers to purchase farms simply as a place to live with no intention of farming. He said the number of such transactions was not yet great, but the trend was worrisome enough to warrant action now.

"We want to block that tendency," he said.

He declined to estimate the number of non-farmers who had

purchased farms in recent years.

Of the 20,000 moehav farms in the country, a quarter belong to one-time farmers who for personal or other reasons have given up active farming. The new ruling is not directed against them, said Weiss.

Another quarter are worked by owners who also hold outside jobs. The remaining half are owned by full-time farmers.

The growing number of second-generation moehav youngsters seeking a farming homestead makes it imperative, said Weiss, that existing farms not be transferred to persons who will not work them.

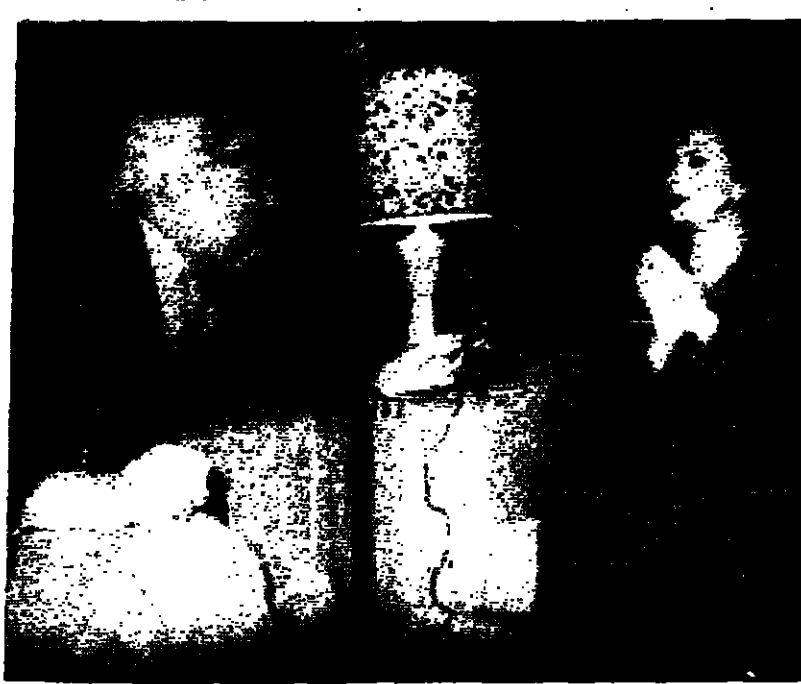
Persons purchasing farms under the new regulations can continue to hold outside jobs — Weiss cited a person who practices law as an example — as long as he worked his allotment according to the criteria attached to it — so many chickens, so many fruit trees, etc.

A purchaser must make this commitment in the lease he signs with the Land Authority.

Failure to abide by it could result in eviction.

In addition to farming families, professional and service personnel such as teachers can account for up to 30 per cent of the moehav population. Weiss himself was accepted into the Jerusalem Corridor moehav of Ora under this category.

The stipulation concerning active farming is among a list of fixed criteria for moehav applicants adopted for the first time by the Agency, which has played a central role in the creation of the country's moehavim. The criteria were drawn up by a committee composed of representatives of the Settlement Department, Agriculture Ministry, Lands Authority and moehav movements. Other criteria include an age limit of 45 except in special circumstances.



Mrs. Jehan Sadat giving her first interview to an Israeli, Uri Avnery, editor of "Haolam Haze" on Tuesday. (AP radiophoto)

## Rehabilitation centres to open in three Arab towns

**By SUSAN BELLOS**  
**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Three rehabilitation centres exclusively for the Arab population — the first ever — will open soon in Nazareth, Tira, and Bethlehem. The centres, to be run by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, will offer vocational training and sheltered workshop facilities for people with a variety of disabilities.

Until now disabled Arabs who received any rehabilitation services had to go to centres in Jewish towns and settlements.

Each centre will accommodate 30 clients who have not been absorbed into the labour force for reasons such as work injuries, blindness or psy-

chiatric problems. This is in keeping with the ministry's current policy of not isolating people with different disabilities both from one another and the general population.

According to Dr. Mordechai Avitzur, who is in charge of the project, "rehabilitation will focus on the needs of the local environment, such as the Arab village." Some attempt will also be made to develop cottage industries for people who are either bedridden or unable to work easily outside of their own homes.

Part of the money for the project is being supplied by the Christopher Blinden Mission (CBM), a German organization which works with the blind internationally.

## 'Heart-attack' victim said poisoned

**By ARTHUR KEMELMAN**  
**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

TEL AVIV. — A man believed to have died of a heart attack seven months ago was in fact poisoned, police said yesterday.

On May 5, Arye Minster, 66, of Kiryat Shalom, was rushed by his wife and daughter to Ichilov Hospital where he had fallen unconscious off his bicycle.

Doctors pronounced Minster dead and the body was taken to the

Institute of Forensic Medicine at Abu Kahir. The family, however, objected to an autopsy, presenting authorities with a doctor's certificate asserting that Minster suffered from heart disease.

Doctors at the institute conducted an external examination of the body and withdrew blood samples from the heart. Subsequent tests, which were only recently completed, revealed that Minster died from a poison frequently used as a pesticide on fruits and vegetables. Police could not explain why test results were reported so late or how Minster was poisoned.

Doctors stated that without a post mortem it was impossible to determine how the poison entered his body.

Police have searched the deceased man's house, but found nothing suspicious. Both Minster's wife and his daughter expressed surprise at the results of the test, and rejected the possibility that he was poisoned.

Minster, who came to this country from Russia 47 years ago worked as a carpenter in Jaffa.

Police are continuing to investigate.

## Ministry rapped for lack of religious centres

**By LEA LEVAVI**  
**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

TEL AVIV. — The Corporation for Community Centres, which is supported almost entirely by Education Ministry funds, is ignoring the needs of the religious community, Prof. Eliezer Stern of Bar-Ilan University's School of Education has charged in a recent study.

In an article in "Bar-Ilan News," Stern said that children attending religious schools do not have religious community centres for extracurricular activities.

Haim Zipori, executive director of the Corporation for Community Centres, said it is the ministry's policy to serve secular and religious children in the same centres. "To build religious community centres alongside the secular ones would cost the country millions and would only worsen social tensions," he said.

Stern does not accept this answer. "Just as having separate secular and religious schools has not turned us into two opposing camps, separate community centres won't either. We feel parents who want their children to get a religious education should also have their wishes respected where after-school educational activities are concerned."

## Israel must use peace to solve her Jewish problem, Leibowitz says

**By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER**  
**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

HAIFA. — Professor Yeshayahu Leibowitz said yesterday that if the present peace effort succeeds, Israel would be afforded relative security in which to solve her fundamental problem: formulating the Jewish national-political character of the Jewish people.

"This problem has so far not been tackled, because the lives of Israelis have been dominated by foreign affairs and security problems," he said.

Speaking to a capacity audience of Technion students, the lantern-jawed septuagenarian professor of biological chemistry and halachic scholar with a reputation for maverick views, warned that if the peace efforts failed, catastrophe would result, "with war following war to the bitter end."

The only chance for peace, Leibowitz said, was in the division of the country between Israel and the Palestinians. This would be to the

advantage of ourselves as well as the Palestinians, he said, because we had no future at all as "a colonial power ruling over a million Arabs."

Israel has nothing to fear from a Palestinian mini-state, he argued. On the contrary, such a state would be in constant fear of Israel. Territory was no guarantee for security. This could only be attained by the superiority of Israel's armed forces, which is dependent on the superiority of Israeli society, the backing of other nations, and divisions among the Arabs.

Leibowitz said he was convinced that the differences between Israel and the Arabs are so fundamental that peace is possible only if the U.S. applies massive pressure on both sides to reach an agreement.

The professor's two-hour address was punctuated by applause, laughter and shouts of disagreement from the audience crammed into the auditorium in the Students' Union. A number of students stayed behind to argue with Leibowitz after the talk was over.

## eaks pre-empt briefing by Dayan

**By HIRSH GOODMAN**  
**Post Knesset Reporter**

reign Minister Moshe Dayan rday morning met with the set Foreign Affairs and Security Committee at his request, mainly to discuss the latest matic moves in the Middle

east, however, *The Jerusalem* learns much of the internal di-nation being presented to the nities by key Cabinet Ministers, n the problem of plugging leaks the committee.

most all those questioned about nting said that few details handed over to the parliamenta-by Dayan which have not

been published in the press. However, there were differences as to the reason for the dearth of information. Some sources claimed that Dayan was deliberately holding back information; others were of the opinion that the minister himself was not totally in the picture, and therefore was in no position to offer a deeper look into the ongoing moves.

The committee is still wrestling with the credibility gap which exists between itself and the government, and with the general feeling in the committee that they are not an integral part of the decision-making process. While all recognize that leaks to the press are a problem, many of the members — even coalition members — feel that the government is using the pretext of leaks too

liberally in order to withhold ongoing information on the political level.

The committee chairman, Moshe Arens, has already asked Attorney-General Aharon Barak to look into the legal aspects of leaks and how some formula could be found to prevent them from the committee, despite the Knesset's widespread immunity law. Arens has also recommended that a mini-committee be set up, representative of the various factions in the overall committee, to deal with secret information.

The Foreign Affairs and Security Committee has several sub-committees which deal with highly sensitive material, such as Israel's arms purchasing policy and the secret services.

## usiness waits as history is made

**Post Knesset Reporter**

en Knesset deputy Speaker Chalki Grossman pounce gavel to open yesterday's session at 11 a.m., it erupted through a near empty house. The members huddled round a blurred television set in a room he members' lounge, listening to every word being rom the Cairo conference.

le faction whips pleaded with members to enter the ver to vote on motions for the agenda and other ss, none would move away from the screen. The t had taken an unscheduled time out. Business wait.

members sat on the floor, while others came up diercracks each time the picture from Mens House and the apology was screened. In the crowded were former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, r Party chairman Opposition Head Shimon Peres, ture Minister Ariel Sharon and many of the coun-opinion-makers, with the services staff of the t and a few journalists, watching history being made.

But Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan was not in the plenum at the time. Nor was he watching television in the viewing room. Dayan was briefing a journalist representing an American weekly and his Israeli sidekick in the adjacent lounge. If Dayan knew what was going to be said at the opening ceremony in Cairo by all the parties in advance, he certainly never told the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee (see adjacent story) with whom he had just met about it. If he didn't know, he certainly did not seem perturbed by the fact that he was missing the opening statements.

After the show was over, and some members left the plenum, Dayan and Peres retreated to the private members' lounge where the two former colleagues spoke for over an hour. It was a private conversation with nobody else present. It was even money on whether Dayan was briefing Peres, or whether Peres was briefing Dayan on the opening ceremony. The odds were 8:1 that they were discussing the weather.

## 0,000 addicts spend 1b. on drugs annually

**Post Knesset Reporter**

s are over 120,000 drug users al today who collectively aelst IL1b. on their habit ear. This was stated in the t yesterday by the Likud's t Yitzhaki while presenting a for the agenda on the subject.

ugh drug abuse is steadily on ease, he said, the country has quite facilities to cope with blem, and the largest centre estment in Acre, where s of patients have been sent movements, has been closed t months.

aid — whose motion was t to committee — took issue fact that many addicts were ted in mental institutions. anded that they be taken to places of rehabilitation here they could be helped to and take a new lease on life. er motions for the agenda — num almost empty because re occupied with the Cairo — another Likud t, Pessah Grupper, said that Zahav moehav was near e. He called for action by the ure Minister.

er noted that over IL50b. a poured into the Red Sea

moehav and that to date only 20 families lived there — and 10 of these families were considering leaving. There was a situation of anarchy at the moehav, the member claimed — established by the Independent Liberals at public expense and which had been neglected by the Liberals. This motion was also referred to committee.

Other motions included a call from Yosef Tamir to check into reports of hazardous safety conditions at Ben-Gurion Airport; and a motion from Rabbi Shlomo Lorincz lamenting the state of Jewish education in the country. Both members were told that the ministries responsible were aware of the shortcomings in both fields, and that special committees were looking into the charges.

Several MKs, however, failed in trying to influence Minister of Interior Yosef Burg into taking action on the complaints of cinema owners that they could not make a living. Burg announced that by international standards they were earning plenty. The minister turned down the motions, saying that the threat of a strike by the cinema owners unless entertainment taxes were lowered was nothing but a threat — which would not be carried out.

## ai town worried about service, not peace talk

**By ZVI ARENSTEIN**  
**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Local residents are more d with elections to the ouncil in this northern Sinai ent town than with the lks and accompanying t from Egypt to return the insula.

the parties in the elections, alle itself "Yelpat Lemu (We care about Yamit), a flyer this week listing problems that must be to the attention of the nt. Not one of them men- possibility of returning Egypt.

zens seem to be much more about increasing the d. Egged buses arriving day, opening a post office etting tax and utility rate s, opening a new medical d getting approval for a h and high school in Yamit. e new Housing Ministry itative, former army e've Ofer said yesterday he has bothered to raise the possibility that Yamit returned. He has been too ng his new job to think leulous to even discuss it."

magazine was not of that hen it printed in the s issue its own plan for a tement and casually in-

formed its readers that "Egypt would regain sovereignty over this huge desert peninsula and Israel would withdraw its forces to the 1967 lines and remove its 16 Sinai settlements."

At least one resident, when interviewed by a TV crew last week about the possibilities of peace, indicated that he would be ready to concede his apartment for a real agreement. But his generous comments were apparently squelched in Jerusalem, where there is more appreciation for the delicate situation the country is in.

The only assurance anyone has received so far from a government source was from Housing Minister Gideon Peat to citizens council head Ylazar Nir that the government is not considering giving up the Rafah approaches. But apart from that, there have been no promises or would withdraw its forces to the 1967 lines and remove its 16 Sinai settlements.

## Jailed for receiving stolen coffee sacks

HAIFA (Itim). — Muhamed Baasher, 26, a resident of Pundis village, north of Hadera, was sentenced yesterday to 18 months in jail with a IL7,000 fine for receiving 45 sacks of coffee (worth IL160,000) which were stolen from the bonded warehouses in Haifa port.

Jerusalem Khan

Israel Broadcasting Authority

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at the

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## Soviets flying arms to Ethiopia

WASHINGTON. — The Soviet Union is airlifting military equipment into Ethiopia, in some cases using misleading information on flight plans to get permission to fly over countries, a U.S. State Department spokesman said on Tuesday night.

"We have intelligence reports that the Soviets are stepping up their military effort in Ethiopia with an airlift," said Ron Brown, a department spokesman.

"We have expressed our concerns to the Soviets. These concerns are shared by Africans themselves, who desire no superpower military involvement in African affairs."

Brown said the Soviets have used several different routes for the airlift and "some flights took place without permission of the country."

In addition, he said there is reason to believe that some countries granted permission for the airlifts "on the basis of misleading information."

The airlift began about three weeks ago, according to published reports. The airlift is believed to be

part of a buildup for an Ethiopian counter-offensive in the Ogaden region.

Ethiopia's left-wing government is fighting secessionist forces in Eritrea and Somalia-backed forces in the Ogaden region.

Brown said the U.S. believes "the superpowers should stay out and leave it to the Africans to find a solution."

According to the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) the U.S. has told Ethiopia it will stick to its policy of refusing to supply arms to either Ethiopia or Somalia.

ENA reported yesterday that the assurance was made in a message delivered to the Ethiopian leader, Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile-Mariam, by two U.S. Congressmen on Tuesday.

Another ENA dispatch said yesterday that six government workers were shot dead in renewed street fighting in Addis Ababa on Monday.

Addis Ababa radio, monitored in Nairobi, said a policeman and four civilians were killed on Sunday when

"a group of counter-revolutionary elements" threw a grenade into a mosque and fired on a security patrol.

The Marxist military government has blamed much of the recent violence on the "People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP)," which wants the military to step down in favour of civilians.

Eritrean guerrillas said yesterday they had foiled an Ethiopian Army attempt to break the siege on Barentu, a town in western Eritrea.

A spokesman for the Eritrean Liberation Front-People's Liberation Forces (ELF-PLF) said over 100 Ethiopian soldiers were killed and 50 prisoners taken, including three officers, in last month's attempt. The town had been under siege for three months.

Barentu is the only town on the strategic road between the Eritrean capital of Asmara and the Sudanese border still under Ethiopian control. The Ethiopian garrison there is estimated at around 5,000 troops. (AP, Reuter)

## Rebel raids claimed in Angola

LISBON (UPI). — UNITA, a pro-Western Angolan guerrilla movement claimed yesterday its troops have launched a series of lightning raids in the major towns of central Angola, killing a number of Cuban troops and East European technicians.

A spokesman for the National Union for Angola's Total Independence (UNITA) said one helicopter was shot down and a Soviet-made Antonov-26 transport plane was destroyed on the ground. He said the guerrillas also derailed two trains on the strategically important Benguela railway and made off with their cargoes of war materiel, food and clothing.

In one of the 11 major raids, the guerrillas burst into the centre of the port town of Luanda and burned down three hotels housing Bulgarian and East German technicians. The spokesman said 10 East Germans were killed, as were several Bulgarians and Cuban troops assigned to protect them.

Some of the attacks have been reported without details by Radio Luanda, which also said the government has launched a counter-offensive to wipe out UNITA and another pro-Western movement operating in Northern Angola.

The guerrillas said the government campaign was being spearheaded by Cuban troops whose numbers have been increased from 15,000 to 18,000 in recent months.

Western intelligence reports have speculated that these reinforcements would remain in Angola only for the current campaign and then be shipped to Ethiopia to fight against the Somali and Eritrean secessionists. As the basis for this, they cited the transfer of one of Cuba's top combat commanders, Divisional General Arnaldo Ochoa, to Addis Ababa.

## Speeches at Cairo

### ISRAEL/Elihu Ben-Elissar



Elihu Ben-Elissar at the conference table in Cairo yesterday. (AP radio photo)

Mr. Chairman:

Yesterday my colleagues and I — the delegation of Israel — travelled from Jerusalem to Cairo. It was a unique experience. The flight was brief, but the journey of the spirit was infinite.

Looking down from our aircraft we saw a landscape embracing two ancient lands: two very old peoples; two civilisations; two historic neighbours: Egypt and Israel — names that are as old and as indestructible as the annals of mankind.

From the dawn of history our countries had been neighbours. We have shared common experiences, engaged in mutual commerce, and at times, defended ourselves against common enemies. Indeed, there were times in the past when we were attacked by deep alliances.

Tragedy has lately been at war. Now after 30 years of conflict we meet again — Egypt and Israel — this time to begin preparing the peace. We come to renew an age-long relationship that for too long was interrupted by the nightmare of my own people's exile from its land and by the political and military strife of the last decades since the rebirth of our independence.

May God grant us all the wisdom to succeed in this great human and sacred venture for peace — for our own sakes, for the sake of our peoples, and, above all, for the sake of the generations to come.

Mr. Chairman:

At this time and in this place I wish, on behalf of my delegation, to express sincere appreciation to our host — the Arab Republic of Egypt — for the invitation and hospitality accorded us. We extend our thanks to the President, government and people of Egypt for the manner in which we have been received and for the courtesies extended to us. The facilities placed at our disposal will, I feel sure, contribute — in spirit and in substance — to the purposes of the mission in which we are joined.

People of goodwill everywhere hope and pray for the success of our talks. Our deliberations have consequences that extend far beyond our two countries and our common region. We have to address ourselves to issues that have long awaited a table around which to sit and reason together.

It is this that brings us to Cairo — to reason and to conduct a dialogue in frankness and in mutual confidence.

### EGYPT/Esmat Abdul-Meguid

Gentlemen:

On behalf of the government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, I welcome you to this preparatory meeting for the Geneva peace conference. We are gathered here at an historic site which has witnessed 7,000 years of recorded history. Today we sincerely hope that we are witnessing the dawn of a new era for the region and for the whole world. The presence of the representative of the UN, as representing the international community, is of particular significance to our setting. In point of fact, peoples and governments through the whole world are supporting in earnest our efforts to pave the way for the coming peace conference.

No one can forget that the people in this era in this area have been subjected to untold sorrow and miseries for 30 years. Lives have been sacrificed, blood has been shed. It is therefore high time to seize this opportunity and strive with vision and sense of responsibility towards the achievement of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The Middle East conflict, and its core the Palestinian question, has reached a turning point when President Sadat urged Israel to join efforts for the speedy realization of just and comprehensive peace.

Egypt has launched a new era, an era free from the shackles of narrow minded concepts and all other forms of psychological complexes. Unnecessary formalities have been dispensed to open the path for a genuine endeavour to attain peace in conformity with the principles of justice and international law. We have thus clearly proven that we are firmly committed to the establishment of genuine peace.

Let us not forget that peace is indivisible and that the absence of peace, the continuation of a state of no-war-no-peace, is a grave threat to world peace and security. The entire world community has been fully alerted by hopes that Egypt's genuine desire to establish a just and lasting peace be reciprocated by the government of Israel.

Tangible and concrete results are expected and should be forthcoming without delay.

The edifice for peace should be established in accordance with international law, the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and the relevant UN resolutions, including Security Council Resolution 242 which lays down the basic framework of the comprehensive settlement.

Actuated by these noble goals, President Sadat called for the convening of this preparatory informal meeting in order to prepare effectively for the Geneva conference so that the parties to the conflict would achieve what the whole world is yearning for.

We trust that the outcome of this

meeting will lead to positive and constructive results and that we will be able to avoid undue delays in the efforts to attain the comprehensive peace, now in the hands of the parties to the conflict.

In view of these momentous developments that followed the initiative of Egypt, we trust that we will be able to reach a clear-cut and to live up to our people's expectations and legitimate aspirations.

It is pertinent to emphasize the invitations which have been tendered to the other parties concerned, namely Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and the PLO, and we do hope that they will participate in this preparatory stage of the Geneva peace conference. Participation here will be welcome.

Before concluding, I wish to reiterate what President Sadat has said in Knesset on November 20: "I come to you on solid ground to a new life and to establish peace. Let us demonstrate in the clear terms that we are determined to save succeeding generations the scourge of war and that of this goal is the establishment of comprehensive peace settlement which the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are fully reflected. Let us strive for justice to prevail more in the Middle East."

comprehensive peace. We do not see that these proceedings are contradictory to the Geneva conference.

In calling for this preparatory meeting, President Sadat has indicated two basic objectives: unique opportunity for successful negotiations leading to peace in the Middle East. The idea of peace has captured the imagination and ignited the hopes of a war-weary region. The government leaders who are charged with the responsibility, as well as the challenge of negotiating, can do so with the confidence that there is today an overwhelming public constituency in the region for peace.

All of us in this room would agree that we must not allow the momentum of these events to be lost. President Sadat has called this meeting to prepare for a reconvening of the Geneva conference, the objective of which remains the negotiation, among all the parties to the conflict, of a final peace settlement on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338. I must record my government's regret that others invited to this meeting have felt unable to accept the invitation to attend. Ultimately I believe those absent will see that the process begun here is in their benefit. We are all agreed the door remains open for others to join at any time.

My government — indeed each of the governments represented here — has emphasized on numerous occasions that our objective is the negotiation of a comprehensive peace settlement. Central to my government's policy over the years is the concept that this peace can only be achieved through negotiations between the parties. Security Council Resolution 242 established the principles for these negotiations. Resolution 338, which made a convening of the conference in Geneva possible, established the process. We have always held the view that wherever and whenever the parties can start talking with one another, it is in the spirit of that mandate.

We see the discussions getting underway today in Cairo as an integral and contributory step toward a reconvening of the Geneva conference and the negotiation of a com-

## Bonn denies financing missile base in Zaire

BONN. — West Germany yesterday flatly rejected an American press allegation that it was financially backing a missile testing base in Zaire.

"Penthouse" magazine, in an article scheduled for publication in its March issue, reports that Bonn has taken over a portion of Zaire where it is secretly producing and testing cruise and intermediate-range missiles with U.S. approval.

The article by Saul, former diplomatic correspondent for "The New York Times," charged that the operation in Shaba "is in deliberate disregard of the 1964 treaty of Brussels, which forbids production of long-range missiles and guided missiles on German territory. The treaty's phrasing, however, does not specifically rule out production on soil outside of Germany."

Saul wrote that prototypes of four or five cruise missiles, designed to carry nuclear warheads, have already flown over the 100,000 square mile area.

A spokesman for the Bonn Defence Ministry said: "It is absolute nonsense. The story has been conjured up out of thin air."

A spokesman for OTRAG (Orbital Launch and Rocket Corp.), the privately-owned company based near Frankfurt which is named in the article by Saul, declared that "the article is nonsense."

American diplomatic and intelligence officials in Washington also discounted the report, saying their evidence showed the tests by a West German firm in Zaire were non-military.

A U.S. State Department spokesman said the U.S. has seen no evidence that West Germany is testing cruise missiles in Zaire although he added that the government is "aware of the activities" of a German firm which has leased a massive area of Zaire's Shaba province. The spokesman, John Trittner, said the U.S. understands that a West German firm is developing launchers, not missiles.

Saul said the West German firm has signed a 24-year contract with Zaire that gives it virtual sovereignty over the province of Shaba, formerly Katanga, at a rate of \$50m. per year. The company is supported from the Bonn military budget, the article said.

Bonn confirmed that OTRAG signed an agreement with the Kinshasa government of Zaire late in 1975 to test rocket launchers for commercial weather and communications satellites in Shaba province. It described OTRAG as "a private investment company" and stressed that the government is not involved in the project.

Faced with similar reports in the past, OTRAG has insisted that its sole purpose in Zaire is to develop cheap rockets to shoot commercial satellites into space at a cost of \$14m. per launching. (Reuter, AP)

## U.S. basketball squad wiped out in plane crash

EVANSVILLE, Indiana (AP). — Only three persons survived when a chartered DC-3 plane carrying the University of Evansville basketball team, crashed in rain and heavy fog and burst into flames shortly after takeoff on Tuesday night. The plane was believed to be carrying 28 passengers and five crew members.

The airplane, chartered from National Jet Service Inc. of Indianapolis, was en route to Nashville. The Evansville basketball team had a game scheduled last night at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

"He (the pilot) took off on the runway heading due south," an airport employee said. "As soon as he made the lift-off he started making a left turn. There's a hill about 300-400 feet (roughly 100 metres) above the airport level about a mile away. The plane disappeared into the fog and about a minute and a half later I heard his engines cutting out and he went down. I saw it explode in flames."

## \$230,000 awarded victims of attack on Athens airport

NEW YORK (AP). — Four victims of an Arab terrorist attack on Athens Airport in 1973 have been awarded a total of \$230,000 in compensation although Trans World Airlines, the carrier involved, was found to be blameless.

TWA was ordered to pay the damages to compensate for the death of one passenger and injuries sustained by three others.

Four persons were killed and 35 others were wounded in the August 6, 1973 attack, allegedly carried out by the Black September terrorist movement.

The awards were made by a state supreme court jury in Manhattan and came to light on Tuesday when Abraham Fuchsbarg, attorney for the four, filed a judgment against TWA.

## Privacy restored at last in New Jersey

TRENTON (AP). — New Jersey's ban on fornication, in force since America's colonial days, was struck down on Tuesday by the State Supreme Court on grounds it was an unconstitutional invasion of personal privacy.

In a 5-2 decision, the court ruled the law that forbade sexual intercourse between a man and an unmarried woman was "not an appropriate exercise of the police power."

The ruling reversed the conviction of Charles Saunders, a Newark man. He and two friends had admitted having sexual relations with two women in a car near a Newark bar in 1973.

The court rejected the state's contention that the fornication law was needed to guard against venereal disease, protect marital relationships and prevent the propagation of illegitimate children. Law enforcement officials said the fornication statute first enacted in 1704, was rarely enforced.

## Brazil favoured to win World Cup soccer

Tunisia this week beat Egypt 4-1 in Tunis to become the 16th and last country to reach the World Cup soccer finals in Buenos Aires starting in June. London bookmakers have made Brazil 4 to 1 favourites to win, trailed by Argentina, West Germany, Argentina, Holland and Italy in that order.

The other 10 finalists are Hungary, Scotland, Spain, France, Sweden, Poland, Austria, Iran, Mexico and Peru. Iran won Asia's sole place. Israel had been ousted by South Korea.

The first games will be played on June 1 with the final on June 25.

## U.S. claims little damage by NATO security breach

WASHINGTON (AP). — U.S. defence officials said on Tuesday night they did not believe the military security breach recently discovered in NATO had caused a "serious compromise" of U.S. weapons technology or other classified U.S. information.

But they said they have only "slightly" discounted the report, saying they are not sure what specific documents were passed to East European military authorities by a ring of East German spies arrested in West Germany about 15 months ago.

They added that they were unaware of the severity of the security breach until they read press reports from West Germany.

"On the basis of information we now have, we don't believe there has been a serious compromise of U.S. weapons technology or other classified U.S. information," one official said.

However, he cautioned against placing too much weight on this statement because of the skimpiest of information available on the situation.

Asked if the problem could be worse than has been described in recent days by West German officials, the official said, "we have no way of knowing."

According to Pentagon officials, the U.S. was first notified of the possibility of a security breach after the June 1976 arrest of three West German Defence Ministry employees.

More than a year later, in October, the U.S. was informed that the situa-

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## U.S. university expels eight Rhodesians

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania (AP). — Eight Rhodesian students were expelled from their U.S. corporate sponsors want puppets in high places when blacks eventually rule the African nation, have been expelled from Carnegie-Mellon University here.

CMU President Richard M. Cyert said the students, who were not identified, were given until December 31 to vacate their university-leased apartments.

The eight have been boycotting classes after asserting last month that their sponsors wanted to train them in international politics, then plant them in majority-ruled Rhodesia as puppets.

"The university has never stated or intended that these students should return to become political leaders in their country," Cyert said.

"In fact, the students are not even required to work in government when they return to Rhodesia. The only commitment they made before coming to the U.S. was that they would return to Rhodesia at the completion of the programme."

Among the sponsors of the \$300,000 programme were Allegheny Ludlum Steel and Union Carbide corporations, firms that use Rhodesian chrome to make alloys.

## Vietnam, U.S. talks next week

PARIS (UPI). — Talks between the U.S. and Vietnam on the normalization of their relations will resume on Monday in Paris, the Vietnamese embassy in Paris announced yesterday.

The resumed talks previously scheduled for December 7-10 had been postponed for "technical reasons," the embassy said.

Vietnam will be represented by its deputy minister for foreign affairs, Phan Hien, and the U.S. by assistant secretary of state Richard Holbrooke. Both were the chief negotiators in the first round of normalization talks in Paris last May and June.















